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BARKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Finance Committee

**Minutes of meeting of the Barkham Parish Council Finance Committee held on 23rd March 2021 via Zoom at 9.30am**

In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held virtually.

**Present:** Mr Loader (in the Chair), Mrs Stubbs, Mr Heyliger, Mr Alborzpour and Mrs Tims, Clerk to BPC.

**21/037 To receive and consider public questions and comment.**

None

**21/038 Apologies for absence with reason given**

None

**21/039 Declaration of Members’ interests and requests for dispensation**

None

**21/040 To approve the minutes from the last Finance Committee Meeting as being a true record of the meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2020 were approved as a true record. The minutes will be signed at the next physical meeting of the Finance Committee, once restrictions are lifted and physical meetings are allowed to resume.

**21/041 To receive the latest bank reconciliations and any unplanned expenditure from the RFO**

The bank statements for the four accounts and the associated reconciliation documents since the last meeting were reviewed and agreed as correct. The documents will be initialled to reflect this at the next physical meeting of the Finance Committee, once restrictions are lifted and physical meetings are allowed to resume.

As at 4th March 2021:

The Natwest account has a balance of £85,005.10

The Unity Trust current account has a balance of £72,665.87

The Unity Trust Savings Account has a balance of £75,288.91

The bank statement for the Nationwide account is received annually at the end of March, and the Clerk will update Council when this has been received.

There was no unplanned expenditure to report. The Clerk showed the Finance Committee the Income and expenditure for the year so far and explained the variances under the subscription, Parish Office, publicity and Signage which are all over budget. These were due to taking out the Zoom subscription, purchasing Speed watch equipment and Signs, for which the expenditure came out of the EMR, and the survey for the Solar Farm, all of which were agreed by full council to be spent.

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The Clerk explained that the budgets for staff salary, Tax & NI and Pensions are all under budget due to the proposed Green Book Wage agreement increase not being as much as proposed, but the proposal was budgeted for.

**21/042 Reports on matters outstanding and actions arising from the minutes**

None

**21/043 To discuss Grant Applications to be put to full council for consideration in May**

The grant requests were discussed and amounts were agreed to be proposed to full council for discussion and agreement.

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| **Payee** | **Amount requested** | **For:** | **Legal power that the grant comes under** | **Finance Committee Proposal to Council** |
| Royal British Legion | £100.00 | Wreath (to be paid in November) | Local Government Act 1972 s.137 | £100.00 |
| Royal British Legion | £70.00 | Costs for Remembrance Parade (TBC) (to be paid in November) | Local Government Act 1972 s.137 | £70.00 |
| WADE | £500.00 | To maintain cost charges for users | Local Government Act 1972 s.137 | £400.00 |
| Wokingham Job Support Centre | £400.00 | To help continue to provide the free support | Local Government Act 1972 s.137 | £400.00 |
| CRUSE | £500.00 | Towards costs of providing services and to fund training for bereavement volunteers | Local Government Act 1972 s.137 | £500.00 |
| ABC to read | £500.00 | to help recruit and train new support volunteers to go in schools that service Barkham Children | Local Government Act 1972 s.137 | £200.00 |
| The Sam Hosgood Sporting Endeavour Award | £1,500.00 | Applications received towards end of year for Council to decide | Local Government Act 1972 s.137 | £1500.00 |
| Home Start - Wokingham District | £500.00 | To continue to provide support to vulnerable families | Local Government Act 1972 s.137 | £500.00 |
| **Total (S137)** | **£4,070.00** |  |  | **£3670.00** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Citizens Advice Bureau | £1,000.00 | for continuing service providing advice and support | Local Government Act 1972, s.142 | £1,000.00 |
| Barkham Village Hall | £3,500.00 | For mowing of grass | Local Government Act 1972, s.133 HA 1980 s.96 | £3,500.00 |

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| St James PCC Burial ground grant | £2,295.00 | Maintenance of cemetery | Local Government Act 1972, s.214(6) | £2,295.00 |
| Keep Mobile | £1,312.00 | to help maintain service levels to users | Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.26-28 Transport Act 1985 s.106(a) | £750.00 |
| BVRA contribution towards newsletter | £500.00 | To part cover printing costs of the magazine | Local Government Act 1972, s.142 | £250.00 |
| Me2 Club | £500.00 | to help support Children with additional needs in participating in leisure activities | Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19 | £500.00 |
| **Total other grants** | **£9,107.00** |  |  | **£8295.00** |
| **Total of all grants** | **£13,177.00** |  |  | **£11,965.00** |

**21/044 AOB**

Mr Heyliger raise that brackets are required for the new data logger to be mounted to lamp posts. HE had received a quote from Morelock which gave the brackets a cost of £55 each. Mr Heyliger is going to a fabricator based in Wokingham to show them the bracket and obtain a quote from them. Mrs Stubbs said that Mr Heyliger should also visit Ashridge Nurseries as they often sell that type of item and may be able to give a price. Mr Heyliger will report to Council when he has obtained the quotes.

**21/045 To set the date of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be held in June 2021. The exact date, time and venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 11.00 am.